

July/August 2008 Newsletter

Independence Day: Americans Celebrate the Birth of Their Nation

Independence Day honors the birthday of the United States of America and the signing of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. It's a day of picnics and patriotic parades, a night of concerts and fireworks, and a reason to fly the American flag.

On July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress unanimously adopted the Declaration of Independence. Though it is the Constitution that provides the legal and governmental framework for the United States, the Declaration, with its eloquent assertion "all Men are created equal," is equally beloved by the American people. On the Declaration's first anniversary, many citizens of Philadelphia had a spontaneous July 4th celebration. But it wasn't until after the War of 1812 that observing Independence Day became commonplace.

In the past, large public events were arranged to take place on July 4 in order to coincide with the holiday. The groundbreaking ceremonies for the Erie Canal and the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad both took place on July 4. But even without these events, Americans have long celebrated Independence Day with great fanfare. Picnics and parades fill the day while fireworks fill the night sky. A band may play one of John Philip Sousa's marches, such as "The Stars and Stripes Forever." Friends and families barbeque, hold contests and races, wave flags, sing, or listen to patriotic speeches. By the 1870s, the Fourth of July was one of America's most important holidays.

The Fourth of July became a legal holiday in 1941. Every year the celebration of the American ideal that--"all Men are created equal"--continues.

http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/jb/modern/independ_1



Test your Knowledge with this quiz!

1. July 4, 1776 is known as Independence Day. What happened that day?

- ☐ Pilgrims Arrive
- ☐ Boston Tea Party Held
- ☐ Declaration of Independence adopted
- ☐ Consitution adopted

2. Which U.S. President was born on the fourth of July?

- ☐ Abraham Lincoln
- ☐ Calvin Coolidge
- ☐ William Howard Taft
- ☐ John F. Kennedy

3. The Declaration of Independence took place during what war?

- ☐ Revolutionary War
- ☐ War of 1812
- ☐ Spanish-American War
- ☐ World War I

4. Which future U.S. President drafted the Declaration of Independence?

- ☐ George Washington
- ☐ John Adams
- ☐ Thomas Jefferson
- ☐ James Madison

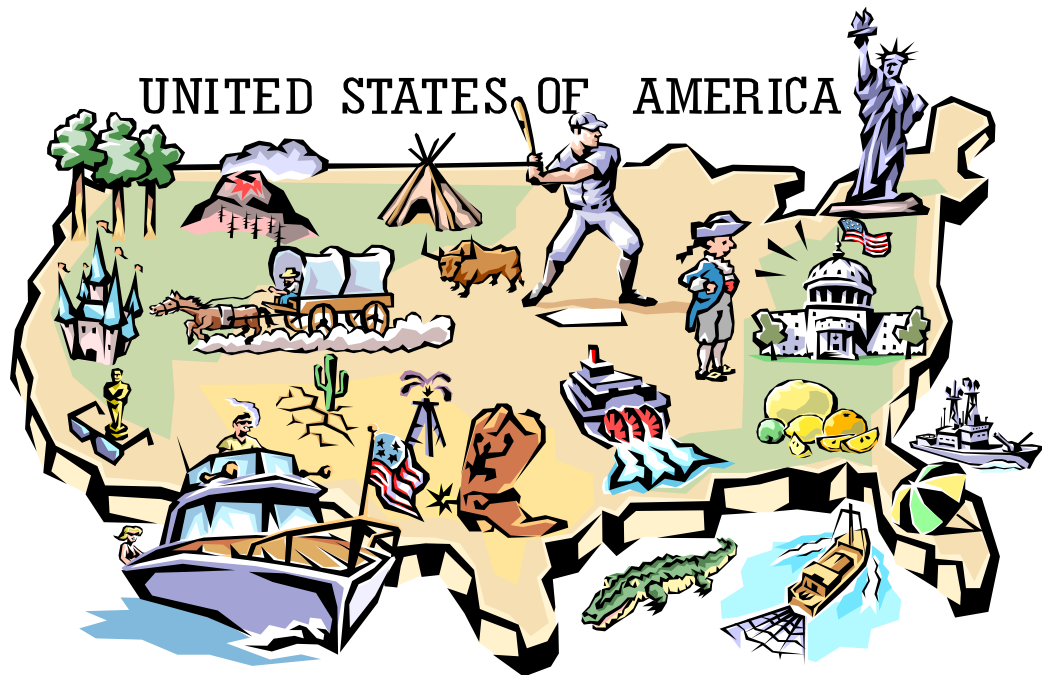
5. Where did the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence take place?

- ☐ New York, New York
- ☐ Washington, D.C.
- ☐ Williamsburg, Virginia
- ☐ Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

U.S. State Project at American Corner Bitola

This open summer project is for anyone interested in learning more about the states by researching one state using the American Corner resources and then preparing a presentation on the state which will be given at the end of August. Working groups will be formed and will meet once a week to work on their project with the help of the AC staff.

Introductory meeting will be
Monday July 7th at 19:00 o'clock
****Please sign in to attend****



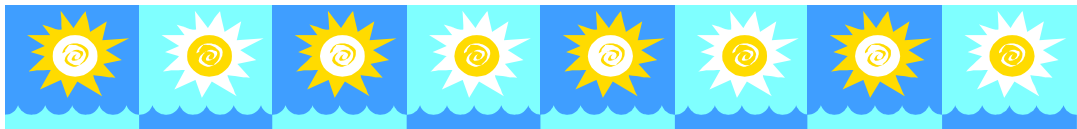
Summer reading books:

For adults

- ✚ A Beautiful Mind – Sylvia Nasar
- ✚ Beloved – Toni Morrison
- ✚ Dreamcatcher – Stephen King
- ✚ Desirable daughter – Bharati Mukherjee
- ✚ It's Not About the Bike – Lance Armstrong
- ✚ He's Just Not that into you; The No-Excuses Truth to Understanding Guys – Greg Behrendt
- ✚ The Amazing adventures of Cavalier & Clay- Michael Chabon
- ✚ Hard Drive – Bill Gates & Making of the Microsoft Empire by James Wallace and Jim Erickson
- ✚ I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings – Maya Angelou
- ✚ The Mother Tongue – English & How It Got That Way - Bill Bryson

For children

- ✚ The Adventures of Tom Sawyer – Mark Twain
- ✚ Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe
- ✚ Seventeen by Booth Tarkington
- ✚ A World of Stories – Multicultural Folk Literature
- ✚ The Earth is Painted Green – a Garden of Poems about Our Planet
- ✚ Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss
- ✚ Experiencing English – 1000 -word Level by Dean Curry
- ✚ Getting to Know the world's Greatest Composers – Duke Ellington
- ✚ Walt Disney's Pinocchio,
- ✚ Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
- ✚ the Jungle Book
- ✚ Dumbo
- ✚ 101 Dalmatians the Big Dig



AC Bitola Summer Working Hours:
Effective July 21st – August 30th
Monday – Friday
10:00– 14:00 and 17:00 – 20:00
Closed Saturday and Sunday

FRIENDSHIP DAY

August 6th

(1st Sunday in August)

"The only way to have a friend is to be one."
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson



Friends are one of the greatest treasures we have in life. We choose our friends and share ourselves with them in good times, bad times and through every day life. Friends can be people we meet at school, work, neighbors, parents, brothers or sisters, your spouse, even your pet.

For many, making friends isn't easy, and for all of us, it's hard work keeping friendships healthy. Friendship Day is an opportunity to remember the important contribution friends make in our lives, and to let your friends know how much you value and appreciate their friendship.

One of the most important things to remember about friendships is that the best ones benefit both friends. Friendship is about sharing - remember to be a good listener, too. In order to have a friend you have to be a friend.

On Friendship Day, do something special with your friend. You might do something fun, or do something together for your community. Doing things to help create a more peaceful, just and sustainable world with friends is doubly rewarding. You'll be helping to create a better world, and strengthening the bonds of your friendship at the same time.

www.betterworldcalendar.com/friendshipday.htm

July Program

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1. Summer Creative Writing Workshop with Merrilee Cunningham	2. Summer Creative Writing Workshop with Merrilee Cunningham	3. Summer Creative Writing Workshop with Merrilee Cunningham Independence Day celebration 19:00 o'clock	4.  CLOSED	5.
7. U.S. State Project Program Introductory meeting 19:00 o'clock	8. U.S. State Project Program Group A 19:00 o'clock	9.	10. U.S. State Project Program Group B 19:00 o'clock	11.	12.
14. EDUCATION USA OPEN HOUSE 13:00 – 15:00 o'clock	15. U.S. State Project Program Group A 19:00 o'clock	16. “Telling America’s Story-America.gov” By Albion Abdullai, Information Resource Center Assistant, US Embassy in Macedonia 12:00 o'clock	17. Jam Session/Workshop- Stacey Fox Trio from USA – 11:00 o'clock U.S. State Project Program Group B 19:00 o'clock	18.	19.
21. The AC begins summer working Hours 10:00 – 14:00 17:00 – 20:00	22. U.S. State Project Program Group A 19:00 o'clock	23.	24. U.S. State Project Program Group B 19:00 o'clock	25.	26.
28. Paper show: The Statue of Liberty	29. U.S. State Project Program Group A 19:00 o'clock	30. Video Showing “The Statue of Liberty” 18:30 o'clock	31. U.S. State Project Program Group B 19:00 o'clock		

August Program

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1.	2.
4.	5. U.S. State Project Program Group A 19:00 o'clock	6. American Movie Night "You've Got Mail" 18:00 o'clock	7. U.S. State Project Program Group B 19:00 o'clock	8.	9.
11.	12. U.S. State Project Program Group A 19:00 o'clock	13. American Movie Night "Funny Farm" 18:00 o'clock	14. U.S. State Project Program Group B 19:00 o'clock	15.	16.
18.	19. U.S. State Project Program Group A 19:00 o'clock	20. American Movie Night "Mr. Mom" 18:00 o'clock	21. U.S. State Project Program Group B 19:00 o'clock	22.	23.
25.	26. U.S. State Project Program Group A 19:00 o'clock	27. American Movie Night "The Devil's Own" 18:00 o'clock	28. U.S. State Project Program Group B 19:00 o'clock	29. U.S. State Project Main Presentation 18:00 o'clock	30.